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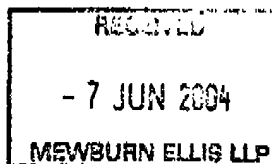
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01.06.2004

Zeichen/Ref./Réf. KMN/FP6050108	Anmeldung Nr./Application No./Demande n°/Patent Nr./Patent No./Brevet n° 00974890.6-2103/JP0007913
Anmelder/Applicant/Demandeur/Patentinhaber/Propriétaire/Titulaire Ajinomoto Co., Inc.	

COMMUNICATION

The European Patent Office herewith transmits the supplementary partial European search report under Rule 46(1) EPC relating to the above-mentioned European patent application.

Copies of the documents cited in the search report are enclosed.

The applicant's attention is drawn to the following:

The search Division informs the applicant that if the European search report is also to cover inventions other than the invention first mentioned in the claims, a further search fee must be paid for each of these inventions, within ONE MONTH after notification of this communication.

If the application has been filed up to 30 June 1999, the search fee in force before 01 July 1999 (EUR 869,-) or the equivalent applicable on the date of payment is payable.
This applies also to the search fees requested under Rule 46(1) EPC.
See also OJ EPO 06/1999, 405.

☒ Additional set(s) of copies of the documents cited in the supplementary European search report is (are) enclosed as well.

DUE 11/7/04	ENTD FOR KMN
ENTD LJ	
TO 1. KMN	2.



Note to users of the automatic debiting procedure:

Unless the EPO receives prior instructions to the contrary, the search fee(s) will be debited on the last day of the period for payment. For further details see the Arrangements for the automatic debiting procedure, Supplement to OJ EPO 02/1999.

REGISTERED LETTER

EPO Form 1507.2 (07.99)



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**SUPPLEMENTARY
PARTIAL EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT**
under Rule 46, paragraph 1 of the European Patent
Convention

Application Number

EP 00 97 4890

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.7)
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	
Y, D	WINSTEIN S ET AL: "ARYL PARTICIPATION IN THE SOLVOLYSIS OF SOME GEM-DIMETHYL-SUBSTITUTED 4-ARYL-1-ALKYL P-BROMOBENZENESULFONATES" JOURNAL OF ORGANIC CHEMISTRY, AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY, EASTON, US, vol. 37, no. 6, 1972, pages 825-836, XP002935130 ISSN: 0022-3263 * page 831, column 1, line 12-26 * * page 832, column 1, line 24-40 *	1-13	C07K5/06 C07C45/41 C07C47/277 C07C51/367 C07C303/30
Y	US 5 480 668 A (NOFRE CLAUDE ET AL) 2 January 1996 (1996-01-02) * column 6, line 27-54; claims; table 1 * --- -/--	1-13	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.7)
			C07K C07C
LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION			
The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:			
see sheet B			
The present partial European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the invention first mentioned in the claims.			
4	Place of search MUNICH	Date of completion of the search 19 May 2004	Examiner Kiernan, A
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS		T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document	
X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category			

EPO FORM 1503 03 02 (P4/C23)



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SUPPLEMENTARY PARTIAL EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 00 97 4890

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (InCl.7)
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	
Y	NAGAYAMA K ET AL: "DIRECT HYDROGENATION OF CARBOXYLIC ACIDS TO CORRESPONDING ALDEHYDESCATALYZED BY PALLADIUM COMPLEXES IN THE PRESENCE OF PIVALIC ANHYDRIDE" CHEMISTRY LETTERS, CHEMICAL SOCIETY OF JAPAN. TOKYO, JP, no. 11, 1998, pages 1143-1144, XP000999904 ISSN: 0366-7022 * the whole document *	1-13	
A	ARNOLDI A ET AL: "SYNTHESIS AND STRUCTURE-ACTIVITY RELATIONSHIPS OF SWEET 2-BENZOYL BENZOIC ACID DERIVATIVES" JOURNAL OF AGRICULTURAL AND FOOD CHEMISTRY, AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY. WASHINGTON, US, vol. 45, no. 6, 1 June 1997 (1997-06-01), pages 2047-2054, XP000655884 ISSN: 0021-8561 * page 2048, column 1-2 * scheme 1 * page 2050, column 1 *	1-13	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (InCl.7)



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**LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION
SHEET B**

Application Number
EP 00 97 4890

The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

1. Claims: 1-13, 16-19

Sulfonyl-protected 3-hydroxy-4-methoxyphenyl-3-methylbutyl
carboxylic acid, a process for its preparation and its use
for the synthesis of
N-'N'-3-(3-hydroxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-3-methylbutyl-L-alpha-asp
artyl-L-phenylalanine 1-methyl ester

2. Claims: 14, 15

Benzene derivatives of formula (3)

ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.

EP 00 97 4890

This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report. The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on. The European Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

19-05-2004

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EPO FORM P0489

For more details about this annex : see Official Journal of the European Patent Office, No. 12/82